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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/914,804	08/30/2001	Shigemasa Takagi	CONDA.00001	2883

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CARSTENS YEE & CAHOON, LLP
P O BOX 802334
DALLAS, TX 75380

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EXAMINER

JOHNSTONE, ADRIENNE C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1733

DATE MAILED: 07/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/914,804

Applicant(s)

TAKAGI, SHIGEMASA

Examiner

Adrienne C. Johnstone

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 April 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 26-45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 30-45 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 26-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 9, 15.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of Group I and the species of the embodiment according to Figures 1-3 or Figures 5-6, claims 26-29 in Paper No. 19 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that there is no "undue burden" on the examiner. This is not found persuasive because the PCT unity of invention practice applies in this 371 application (MPEP 1893.03(d)), and the showing in the restriction requirement that the subject matter common to the claimed inventions does not distinguish over the prior art (thereby establishing lack of unity) has not been rebutted by applicant. Of course, once allowable subject matter is identified, the examiner will consider rejoinder of any claims incorporating the allowable subject matter.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

2. Claims 30-45 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in Paper No. 19.

Priority

3. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

4. The information disclosure statement filed January 25, 2002 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each U.S. and foreign patent; each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

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The copies of JP 7-11595, JP 7-18103, JP 10-088488, and JP 3-11276 could not be located in the application file, and the international search report does not list these references contrary to applicant's indication in the information disclosure statement filed January 25, 2002.

5. The information disclosure statement filed on January 25, 2002 does not fully comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.98 because: see paragraph 4 above. Since the submission appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH from the date of this notice to supply the above mentioned omissions or corrections in the information disclosure statement. NO EXTENSION OF THIS TIME LIMIT MAY BE GRANTED UNDER EITHER 37 CFR 1.136(a) OR (b). Failure to timely comply with this notice will result in the above mentioned information disclosure statement being placed in the application file with the noncomplying information not being considered. See 37 CFR 1.97(i).

Specification

6. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 26 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Marzocchi et al. (3,339,357) cited by applicant.

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See entire document: twisted strand 12 of continuous glass filaments untwisted to apply coating material such as rubber latex (liquid rubber) and then retwisted; filaments coated with sizing material (primer) before initial twisting into strand 12.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayne et al. (885,219).

See entire document and especially Figure 1: thread 1 untwisted into individual fibrous strands 2, strands coated in bath 5 of coating material in the form of india rubber dissolved in a solvent (liquid rubber), then retwisted into the thread and coated in a second bath 10 of the coating material in order to completely impregnate the thread with the coating material. The reference does not disclose whether or not the fibrous strands are strands of untwisted filaments, however such would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in order to obtain complete impregnation of the thread. As to claim 29, the narrow end of coating bath 10 acts as an extruder; in any case, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use such a notoriously well known alternative coating technique as extrusion coating in the above method.

Conclusion

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adrienne C. Johnstone whose telephone number is (703)308-2059. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:00AM-6:30PM.

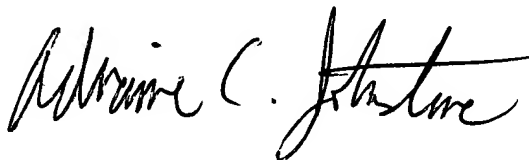
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Ball can be reached on (703)308-2058. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9311 for regular communications and (703)872-9310 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0661.

Adrienne C. Johnstone
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1733

Adrienne Johnstone
July 14, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Adrienne C. Johnstone". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'A' and a long, sweeping underline.